

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066355

EXCON

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM

SUBJECT: COCOM LIST REVIEW: IL 1522, LASERS

USDEL IS INSTRUCTED TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS
TO COCOM DOC REV (74)22, USG COUNTERPROPOSAL ON ITEM 1522,
25 NOVEMBER 1974.

1) SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING NEW HEADING: "LASERS AND
SPECIALLY DESIGNED COMPONENTS AND PARTS THEREFOR AND ANY
EQUIPMENT CONTAINING LASERS."

2) PLACE SUB-ITEMS (A),(B),(C), AND (D) UNDER A NOTE
NUMBER (1) WITH THE FOLLOWING HEADING: "THE FOLLOWING
LASERS AND SPECIALLY DESIGNED COMPONENTS AND PARTS
THEREFOR WHEN NOT CONTAINED IN EQUIPMENT ARE NOT SUBJECT
TO THE EMBARGO OF THIS ITEM:". CHANGE SUB-ITEM (C)(1)
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TO READ: "OUTPUT WAVELENGTHS IN THE RANGE FROM 9 TO 11

MICRONS." CHANGE SUB-ITEM (C)(3) TO READ: "IN WHICH THE BEAM, ELECTRICAL EXCITATION AND THE GAS FLOW, IF ANY, ARE IN THE SAME DIRECTION; AND THOSE USING THE TEA (TRANSVERSE EXCITATION ATMOSPHERIC) LASER PRINCIPLE FOR EXCITATION."

3) ESTABLISH A NEW NOTE 2 WITH THE FOLLOWING HEADING AND SUB-ITEMS:

"THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT CONTAINING UNEMBARGOED LASERS IS NOT EMBARGOED BY THIS ITEM:

(A) SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND CIVILIAN INTRUSION DETECTION AND ALARM SYSTEMS.

(B) SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR MEDICAL APPLICATIONS.

(C) SIMPLE EDUCATIONAL DEVICES.

(D) SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR INDUSTRIAL MOVEMENT CONTROL AND COUNTING SYSTEMS.

(E) SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR DETECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION.

(F) OPTICAL SPECTROMETERS.

(G) EQUIPMENT CONTAINING CONTINUOUS WAVE, HELIUM-NEON GAS LASERS.

(H) TEXTILE CUTTING EQUIPMENT.

(I) EQUIPMENT FOR EDUCATION AND LABORATORY PURPOSES CONTAINING LASERS LISTED IN NOTE 1(D) (ABOVE).

(J) EQUIPMENT CONTAINING LASERS FOR DRILLING DIAMOND DIES FOR THE WIRE DRAWING INDUSTRY."

4) RENUMBER THE NOTE ON THE TERM COVERING "SPECIALLY DESIGNED COMPONENTS AND PARTS" AS NUMBER 3.

JUSTIFICATION: THE USG HAS REVISED ITS FIRST ROUND COUNTERPROPOSAL IN ORDER TO SET FORTH MORE CLEARLY ITS INTENT IN DEFINING LASERS AND EQUIPMENT OF STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE AND THOSE NOT WARRANTING EMBARGO. OTHER DELEGATIONS INQUIRED DURING ROUND I DISCUSSIONS AS TO HOW THE USG PROPOSAL WOULD AFFECT THE ITEMS CURRENTLY BEING GIVEN ADMINISTRATIVE EXCEPTION TREATMENT. WE BELIEVE THIS REFORMULATION OF THE ITEM WILL EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF OUR PROPOSAL TO EMBARGO THE EQUIPMENT GIVEN ADMINISTRATIVE EXCEPTION TREATMENT

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UNDER THE CURRENT DEFINITION. WE RECOGNIZE THAT SOME CURRENTLY EMBARGOED EQUIPMENT, CONTAINING WHAT WILL BE UNDER THIS PROPOSAL UNEMBARGOED LASERS, MAY NO LONGER BE OF STRATEGIC IMPORT AND SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM EMBARGO UNDER NOTE 2. WE HAVE, FOR EXAMPLE, PROPOSED SEVERAL ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT CITED BY OTHER PC'S FOR REMOVAL FROM THE EMBARGO. THE US IS PREPARED TO REVIEW ANY ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENTS WHICH OTHER MEMBERS BELIEVE

SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE CURRENT EMBARGO. FOR EXAMPLE, WE ARE SYMPATHETIC WITH THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL MADE FOR THE FIRST ROUND TO EXCLUDE EQUIPMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL MACHINING AND JOINING PROCESSES BUT FEEL THAT THE DESCRIPTION IS SOMEWHAT BROAD AND WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SPECIFIC TYPES OF EQUIPMENT THEY HAVE IN MIND FOR DECONTROL AND WHAT IS THE NORMAL APPLICATION OR USE.

THE US CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT CERTAIN EQUIPMENTS CONTAINING UNEMBARGOED LASERS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO EMBARGO CONTROL. SUCH EQUIPMENT MAY INCLUDE PRODUCTION, MANUFACTURING, AND TESTING EQUIPMENT (E.G., MATERIALS, TESTING EQUIPMENT, WELDING AND HOLE DRILLING EQUIPMENT, MET ROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT). OUR INFORMATION INDICATES THAT A 5-WATT CONTINUOUS WAVE ARGON ION LASER HAS BEEN USED IN SEVERAL EQUIPMENTS WITH DIFFERENT APPLICATIONS:

(1) TO LINE SCAN PHOTOGRAPHY TO OBTAIN HIGHER RESOLUTION FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC TRANSMISSION FROM AIR TO GROUND; (2) TO PERFORM INTERFERONETRIC MEASUREMENTS IN WIND TUNNELS; AND (3) TO ACCOMPLISH HIGH SPEED COVERT COMMUNICATIONS FROM AIRCRAFT TO SUBMARINES. WE ALSO HAVE INFORMATION THAT A SMALL LASER WITH EXTREMELY LIMITED POWER CAN BE BUILT INTO AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT FOR USE IN OPTICS FOR COMMUNICATIONS; THAT A SMALL-POWERED LASER IS USED IN NUMERICAL CONTROL EQUIPMENT FOR DRILLING HOLES IN BLADES; THAT A 250-WATT GAS LASER IS USED IN CUTTING TITANIUM; AND THAT ANOTHER SMALL LASER IS USED IN EQUIPMENT FOR WELDING TITANIUM, STEEL AND NICKEL-BASED ALLOYS.

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